

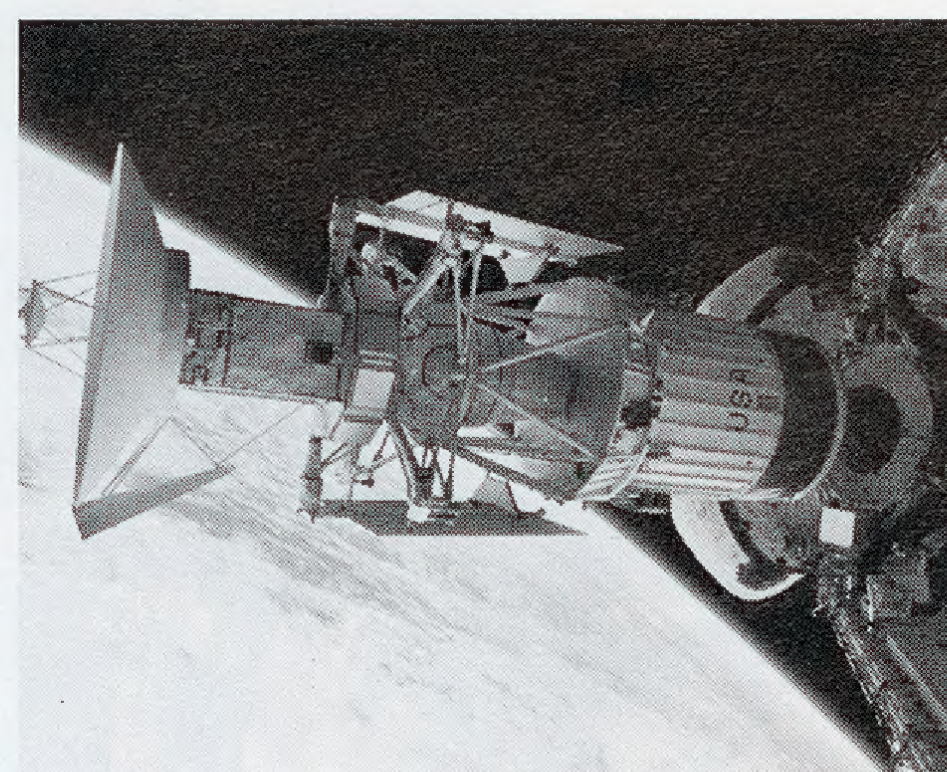
The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

October 1990



Special Program "Magellan: The Unveiling of Venus"

October 16, 7:30 pm



NASA

On August 10th, after a 15 month voyage through the inner solar system, the *Magellan* spacecraft fired its rocket motor and went into orbit around the planet Venus. After initial testing, the spacecraft turned on its radar cameras and began a 243 day observing program to map the surface of this cloud-enshrouded world.

On October 16th, the Morrison Planetarium and the Planetary Society will cosponsor a remarkable discussion featuring the leaders of the Magellan program, Dr. Stephen Saunders, Magellan Project Scientist, Jet Propulsion Lab, Pasadena, and his colleague Dr. Gordon Pettingill, Principal Investigator of the Radar Investigation Group. Also invited is Alexandr Basilevsky, Soviet guest investigator and member of the Soviet team which conducted preliminary studies of Venus. They will present the most recent images of the surface of this other world.

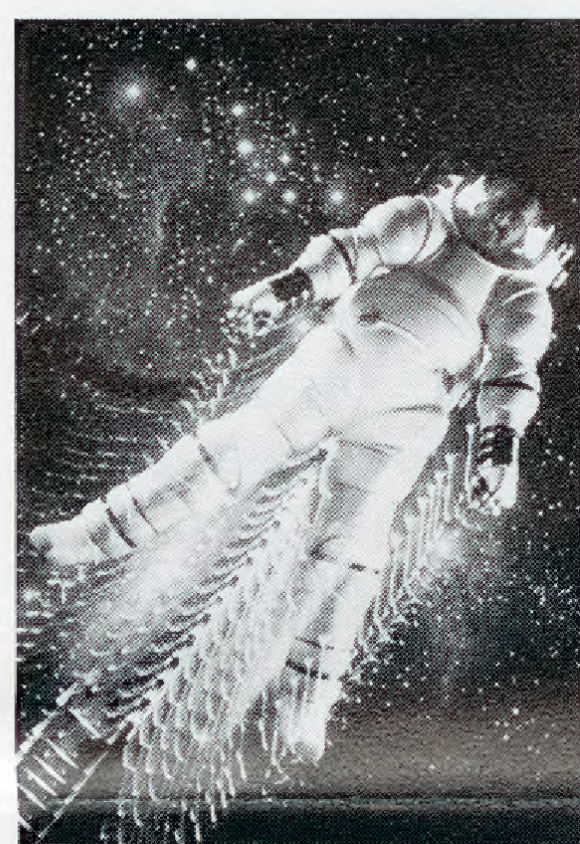
Free tickets for the 7:30 pm presentation in the Morrison Planetarium are available in advance with a limit of two tickets per request. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope (required) to:

"Magellan," Morrison Planetarium
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

Members' Meetings Space Places

Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2 & 7:30

Thursday, Oct. 11, 7:30



Roger Ressmeyer

Journey to the far reaches of outer space as Roger Ressmeyer discusses his life-long fascination with space exploration. Using the spectacular photographic images from his current Academy exhibit and book of the same title, *Space Places*, Ressmeyer will describe his quest to document our endless curiosity with space.

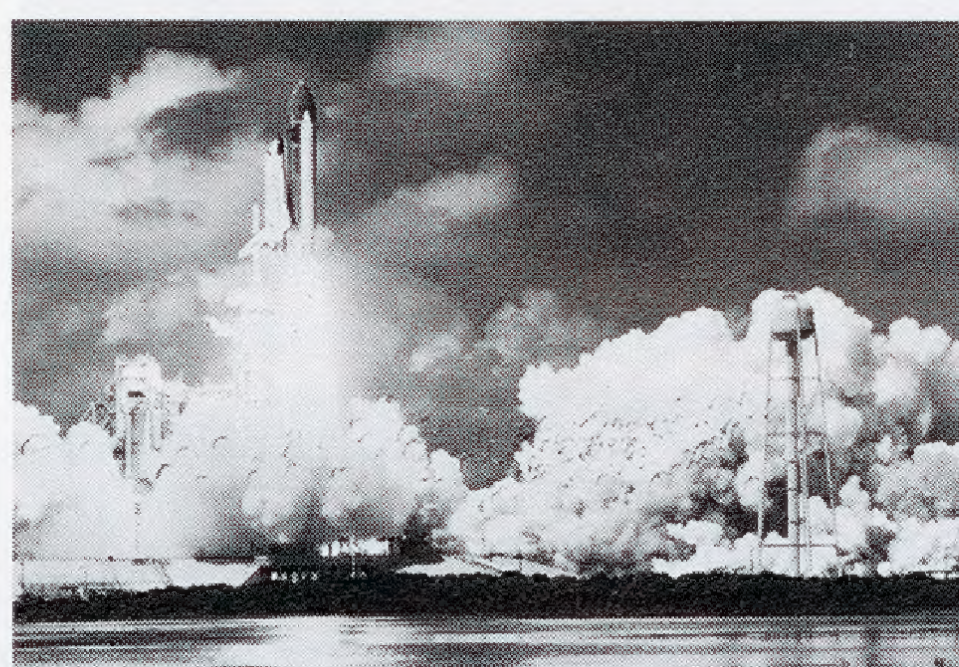
While on assignment for *National Geographic*, *Life*, and *Time* magazines, Ressmeyer has used his unique vision to photograph our exploration of the space frontier. His images offer us the unusual opportunity to view strategic space places, from Australia and French Guiana, to the USSR and the USA.

Roger Ressmeyer will be available after the presentation to autograph his book, which is available at the Academy Store - open thirty minutes before and after the evening meetings. The exhibit *Space Places* will be open an hour before the evening meetings. Members' Meetings next month will be held on November 14 & 15.

Members Please Note

You will see Proposition 149 on this November's ballot. It is the California Park Bond Initiative, approved by the Governor. The Proposition will assist numerous California parks and agencies. The Academy is included in that Bond, and if it is approved, will receive significant matching funds to be used in support of our institutional Master Plan.

Free First Wednesday October 3 Space Places Comes Alive!



Roger Ressmeyer

On October 3 we celebrate the opening of *Space Places* with an evening of family fun. Come to the *Space Places* Bar and listen to the upbeat music of the Redfern Trio. Find out about Moon phases in the Discovery Room with interactive exhibits from the natural world. Hear an astronomer talk about the fall night sky at the Science in Action stage, and view the stars through telescopes set up in the Whale Fountain Courtyard (weather permitting). It's all happening from 5-8:45 pm on October 3!

Lecture Tuesday, November 13, 7:30 pm
African Ark: People of the Horn



Wodaabe
man of
Niger

On Tuesday, November 13, the Academy will host a slide/lecture presentation by world-renowned National Geographic photographers and authors Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher.

Our journey, intended as an exploration and celebration of the different cultures of the Horn of Africa, starts in the famed city of Abyssinia and takes us to the far southwest where the people have just recently made contact with

the outside world.

This presentation promises to be informative as well as aesthetically enticing with exclusive images of this unique area. The authors' newest book, *African Ark: People of the Horn*, will be available at the Academy Store for \$65. There will be a book-signing after the lecture. Tickets are \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. Please use the form below to order your tickets.

**Ticket Order Form—November 13, 7:30 pm
African Ark**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Lecture only:

_____ \$3 member tickets

_____ \$5 guest tickets

Please send your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
The Special Programs Office
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

No refunds/No exchanges

Lecture
**The Giant Grebe
of Central America**

Thursday, October 18
7:30 pm



Picture collection/CAS

The giant pied-billed grebe

The diverse and complex factors which contribute to the endangered status of many of the world's species have caused the imperiled status of the giant grebe of Central America. Dr. Anne LaBastille has studied this flightless, secretive bird for 24 years. Travel with her to the Guatemalan highlands where the impact of human activities has dramatically reduced the population of this water bird. From a hydroelectric project to introduced non-native fish species, humankind's footprint has left its mark on this Central American habitat.

Tickets for this lecture are \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. For more information call 750-7217. Send a check and self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Special Programs California
Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

**Life Through Time
Teacher Workshops**

There will be **Life Through Time** Teacher Workshops on October 20 for K-8; and on November 17 for High School. Please call 750-7100 to receive an announcement and enrollment form. Don't hesitate, these will fill fast!

Lecture Series
**Exploring
the Universe**



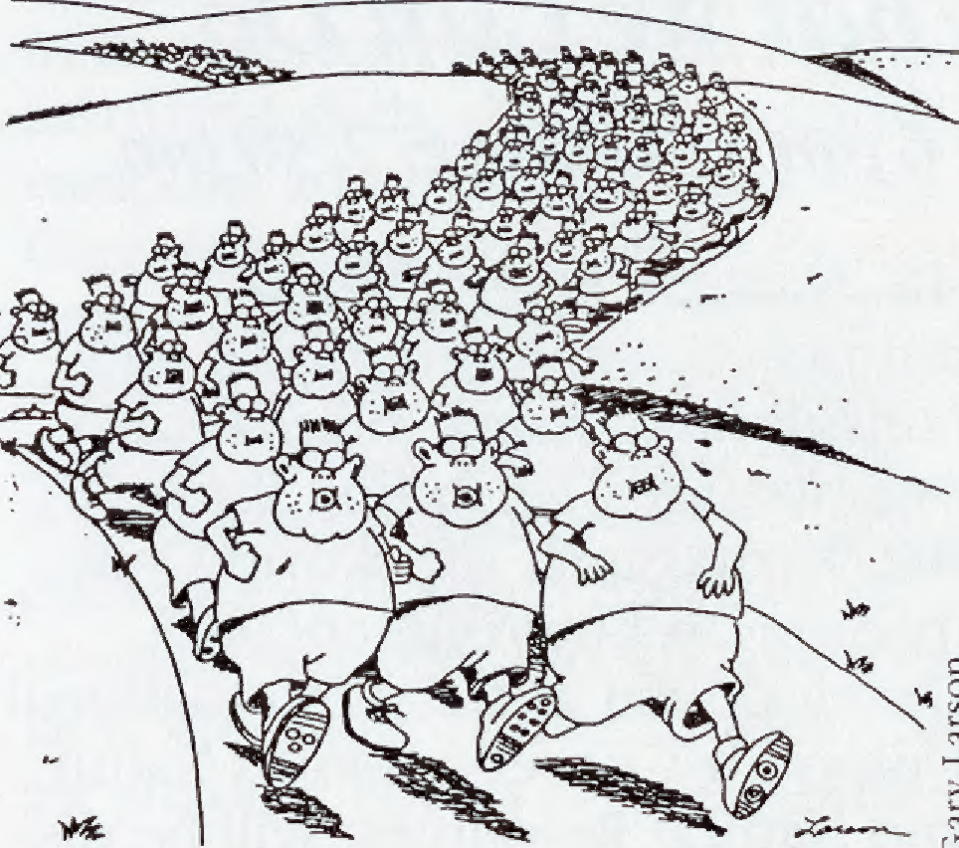
Since 1610, astronomers have been studying the planets of our solar system using increasingly powerful telescopes. For ten years the *Voyager* spacecraft observed the planets, not only in familiar light visible to the eye, but also at radio wavelengths which probe far below the visible cloud layers.

On November 6, Morrison Planetarium presents Dr. Imke de Pater of UC Berkeley's Astronomy Department, and a member of the Voyager Planetary Radio Astronomy (PRA) team. In her presentation, "Radio Astronomy: Another Way to View the Planets," Dr. de Pater will compare the familiar *Voyager* images of the gas giants with those obtained by the PRA instrument.

On December 4, the last presentation in the fall series will be "Gravitational Lenses and Dark Matter: Weighing the Matter in the Universe," by Dr. Vahé Petrosian of Stanford University. This series is made possible through the generosity of the Benjamin D. Dean Endowment Fund.

All lectures are at 7:30 pm in the Planetarium. Free tickets are available in advance with a limit of two tickets per request. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: "Universe," Morrison Planetarium, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. Please indicate the program(s) you wish to attend and the number of tickets. For more information, call 750-7129.

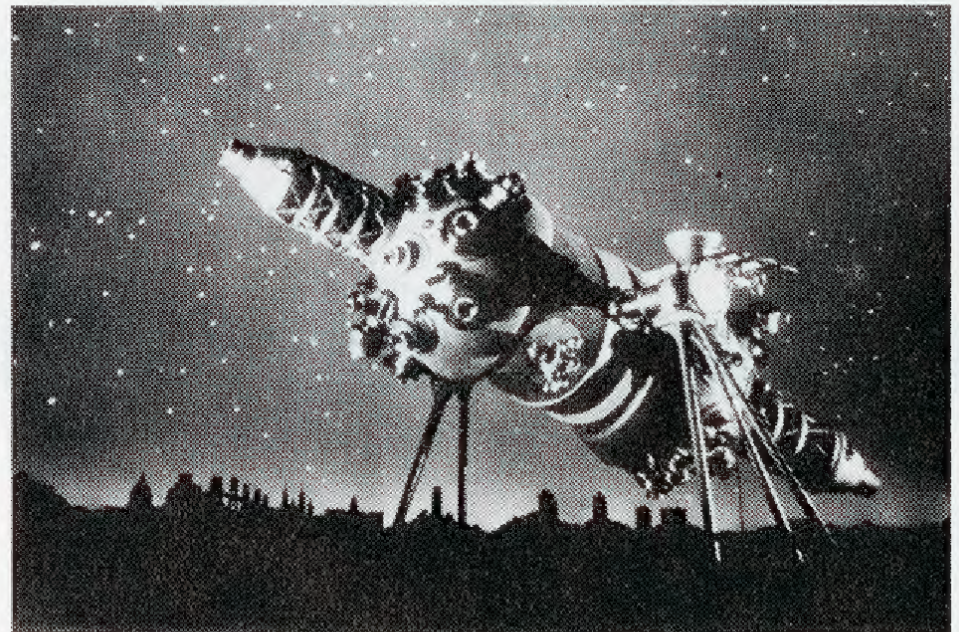
**Lace Up Your Shoes
for the Run
to the Far Side**
Sunday, November 25



Gary Larson
The Far Side ©1990, Universal Press Syndicate

Far Side fans are gearing up for the Academy's sixth annual Run to the Far Side! Join us for the fun and come dressed as your favorite Far Side character to compete for special awards. This year's presenting sponsor of the Run is GEO, who will be giving away a new GEO car or truck to the first-place 10K male and female athletes. Registration for the event is \$15 before November 18 and \$18 on race day. To receive your registration form, please call the race hotline at (415) 387-2178.

**Sky Show
Morrison Planetarium
Reopens with "Sister Worlds"**

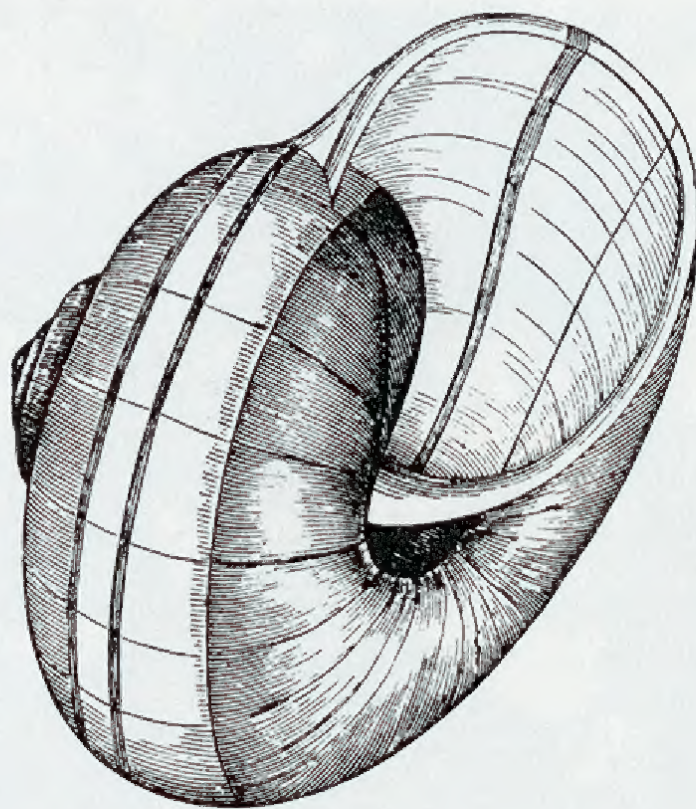


Star Projector, Morrison Planetarium

The Planetarium re-opens its doors on Friday, October 12, with a new feature sky show, "Sister Worlds," about the search for Earth-like planets. The show also discusses the planets Uranus and Neptune, once considered identical twins. 'Sister Worlds' is shown weekdays at 2 pm and weekends at 1, 2, 3, and 4 pm.

**Exciting Fall
Programs with
Adult Education**

The Adult Fall Calendar is now available. Here is a sampling of some of the diverse programs which await you:



Seashells: Drawing Form and Design
October 7, 9:30 am-4:30 pm
Instructor: Dr. Chuck Stasek
\$30 members/\$40 non-members

Trees of California
October 9-November 6, 7-9 pm (5 Tuesdays)
Field trips: October 14 & 21, 10 am-3 pm (2 Sundays)
Instructor: Dr. Glenn Keator
\$65 members/\$75 non-members

Fall Botany of Monterey County
Pre-trip meeting: October 25, 7-9 pm (Thursday)
Field trip: November 2-4 (Friday-Sunday)
Instructor: Dr. Glenn Keator
\$125 members/\$150 non-members (Includes accommodations and extensive instruction.)

Natural History of Sonoma County
November 10-12, (Sat.-Mon.)
Instructor: Greg deNevers
Cost: \$125 members/\$150 other (Includes transportation and meals.)

For more specific information about these and other courses and study tours, call the Adult Education Office at 750-7100.

Traditional Arts in October



Irene Young

Ellis Island Old World Folk Band

Travel the world and experience other cultures without leaving home! Traditional Arts programs take visitors to the far corners of the world every Saturday at 1 pm in Wattis Hall or Morrison Auditorium. These programs are made possible through a generous gift from the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation and are free after general admission.

Oct. 6 — Larry Reed presents Balinese *wayang kulit* — shadow puppet theater that blends high drama, improvisation and humor in its repertoire of ancient myths involving gods, demons, magical weapons and beautiful princesses. Gamelan musicians follow the action of the puppets, creating a wave of sound effects and melodies on bronze gongs and other metallophone instruments. The audience will watch the *dalang*, or shadowmaster, manipulate the lacy, silhouette figures as they create shadow effects on the illuminated screen.

Oct. 13 — Father James McLuckie demonstrates the wax resist and dye techniques of Ukrainian *pysanky*, or egg decorating. He will explain the folkloric significance of the symbolic motifs, many pre-dating Christianity.

Oct. 20 — No Program

Oct. 27 — Ellis Island Old World Folk Band performs a selection of lively, foot-tapping klezmer music — a genre of Jewish dance music that originated in Eastern European ghettos and was brought to this country by immigrants at the turn of the century.

Become an Environmental Artist!

On October 7, visitors to the California Academy of Sciences will have an opportunity to explore their artistic talent by creating environmental murals! Come express your concerns about issues such as toxic waste, deforestation and the ozone hole in this pictorial fashion. Paper and paint will be set up in the courtyard (Far Side of Science Gallery in inclement weather) from 11 am to 4 pm. Volunteers will be on hand to provide assistance.

Mark Your Calendars—6th Annual Academy Ball

Due to the current construction in Cowell Hall, the 6th Annual Academy Ball, an evening of dining, dancing and entertainment, will not take place in October. The new date is THURSDAY, APRIL 11.

Watch your February Newsletter for more details. If you would like to be put on the mailing list to receive an invitation, please call (415) 750-7221.

start small— THINK BIG!!

The Academy Pooled Income Trust Fund offers members the opportunity to create a personal investment program while benefiting the Academy. Participation is available for an initial \$5000 contribution in cash or securities. Once established, \$1000 additions can easily be made at any time. The Academy Fund was created in 1972 and has been working since that time to provide lifetime income to members and a future gift to the Academy.

The Fund offers a way to create retirement income, avoid capital gains tax on appreciated securities, diversify investments and receive significant income tax benefits. The Fund is professionally managed by State Street Bank of Boston which has provided trust services for more than 200 years to individuals and institutions. The Trust Division holds 3.5 billion in assets. Write or call for our brochures:

Development Office
Pooled Income Trust Fund
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118
(415) 750-7216

Member's Benefits for Educators

Education is a primary mission of the Academy. To help fulfill this mission, the Academy will be offering additional benefits to educators. If you are a teacher or school administrator, and are interested in learning more about these benefits, please write us for more information. Please use school letterhead, if possible, and let us know the grade level(s) you teach.

Membership Office
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

For more information, please call Mark Zimmerman at (415) 750-7115.

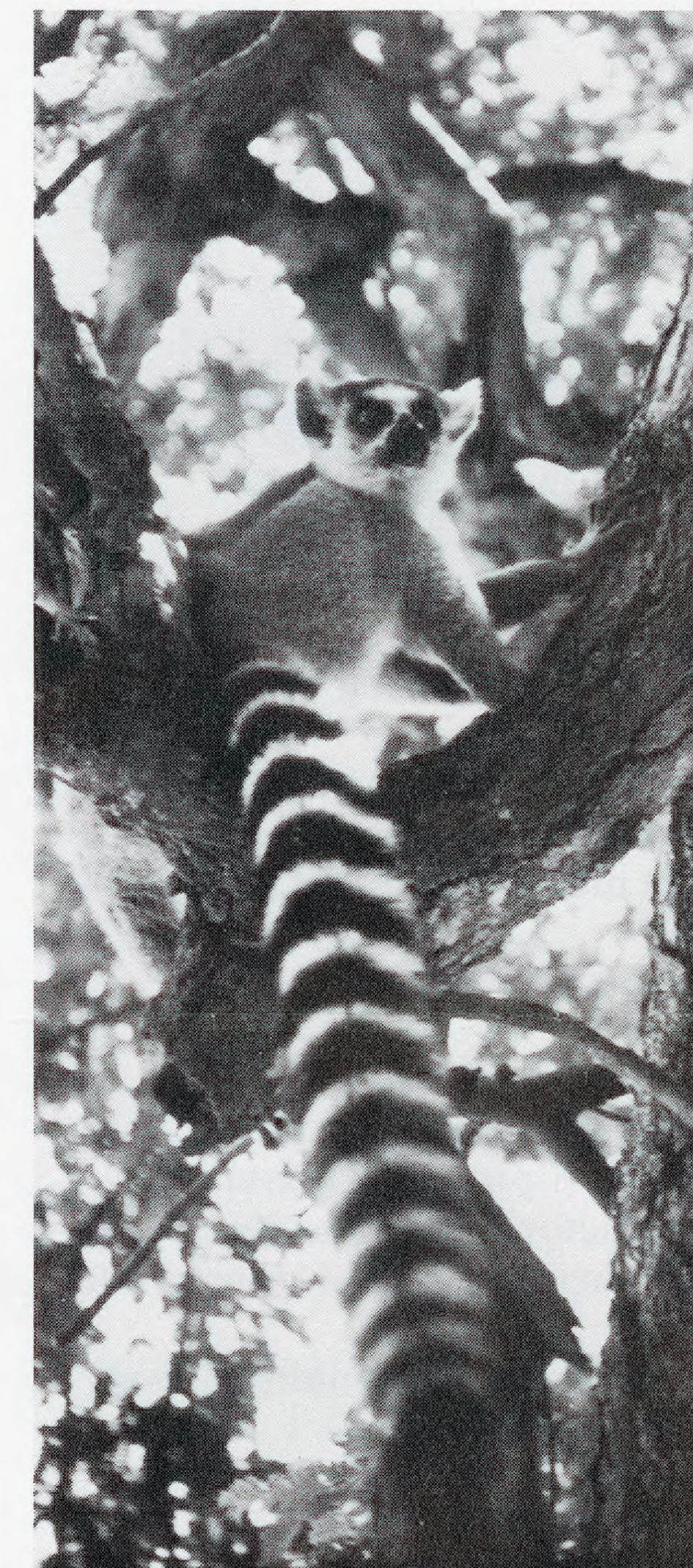
Lecture

The California Academy of Sciences and the World Wildlife Fund Present Dr. Norman Myers:

“Extinction:

Why We Should Care, What We Can Do”

Tuesday, October 16 Reception: 6 pm Lecture: 7:30 pm



Dr. Terry Gosliner

Madagascar lemur

Dr. Norman Myers, world-renowned environmentalist and consultant to many international organizations, including the U.N., the World Bank, the World Commission on Environment and Development and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, will be discussing one of the most important topics of our time — extinction.

As the rain forests of our planet disappear, we are forced to examine the impact of such a radical loss and what options are left to us to save the millions of species of plants and animals which remain. Dr. Myers illuminates this complex topic with his unique global perspective and an uncommon sensitivity.

Join us for a stimulating and educational evening. Tickets for the reception and lecture are \$15 for members and \$17 for non-members. The lecture alone is \$3 and \$5. For more information call 750-7217. Please send a check and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:
Special Programs
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

Volunteers Needed for Library

The CAS Library is recruiting volunteers to serve as reference staff in the Biodiversity Resource Center scheduled to open this fall on the main floor of the Academy. This new information center will utilize videos, video discs, books and computers with CD-ROM data bases to educate our visitors about the importance of preserving the

diversity of habitat, species and human cultures.

The minimum commitment for volunteers in this position is two half-days per month. Volunteers with training or background in the natural sciences are encouraged to apply. Contact Tom Moritz at 750-7101 for more information.

Academy Travel

Chart your course for adventure to exotic destinations on an Academy Expedition. All tours are planned by Academy staff and led by Academy lecturers to ensure that each day is an exciting learning experience. For tour information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 750-7222.

The National Parks of Costa Rica
January 24–February 9
Lecturer: Dr. Frank Almeda

Baja California
January 23–31
Lecturer: Dr. James C. Kelley

A Cruise to Patagonia and the Falkland Islands
February 28–March 13
Lecturer: Dr. Kathy Ann Miller

Spring in the Pacific Northwest
May 18–27

Birding in Northern Scotland, the Shetlands and the Orkneys
May 25–June 8
Lecturer: Dr. Robert Drewes

Exploring the Pyrenees and Northern Spain
June 15–July 3



Clive Saunders

Aigas House, Scotland

A New Membership Benefit

Members will now receive 10% off food purchases in the Academy's Jungle Cafe. You must present your membership card to the cashier with your purchase.

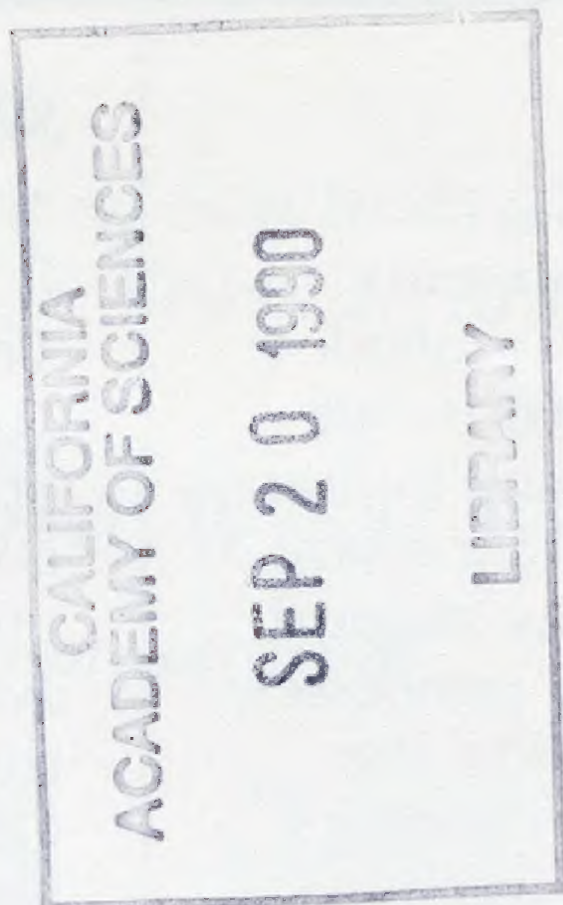
*Time Dated Material
Please Expedite*

October 1990

Open daily 10 am to 5 pm

(415)221-5100

Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, California 94118-4599



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Calendar of Events

October

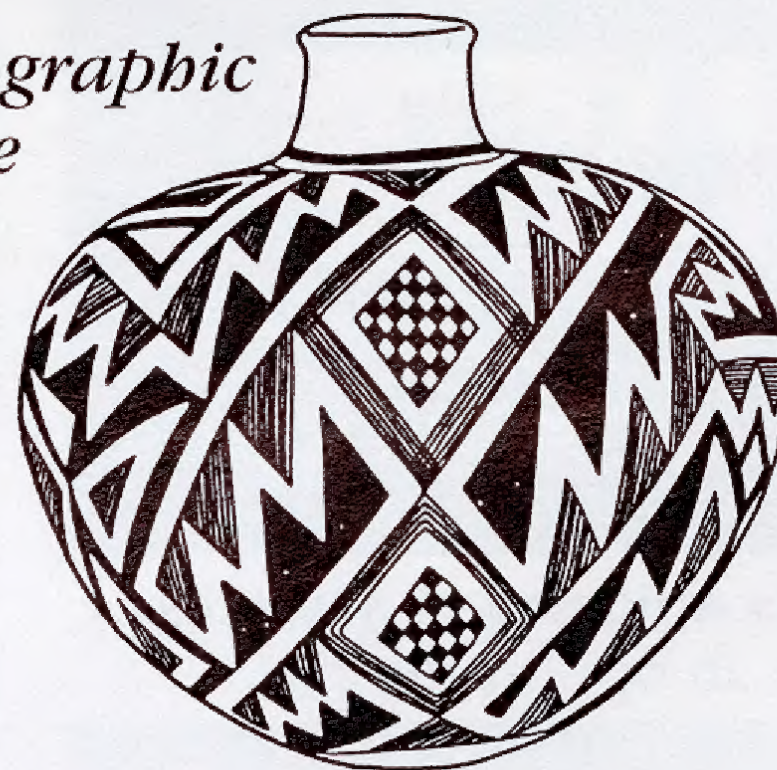
- 2 "Universe" series, 7:30 pm
- 3 First Wednesday night, until 8:45 pm
- 6 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 7 Environmental Art, 11 am-4 pm
- 10 Members' Meeting, "Space Places," 2 pm & 7:30 pm
- 11 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 13 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 16 Lecture, "Extinction," 6 pm
- 16 "Magellan" program, 7:30 pm
- 18 Lecture, "Giant Grebe," 7:30 pm
- 27 Traditional Arts, 1 pm

November

- 6 "Universe" series, 7:30 pm
- 13 Lecture, "African Ark," 7:30 pm
- 14 Members' Meetings, 2 & 7:30 pm
- 15 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 25 Run to the Far Side

The Academy Store

*The Ethnographic
Area of the
Academy
Store
Returns!*



Our exciting new store located in Hohfeld Hall now expands to include the return of our popular Ethnographic Area. This is where you will find a special selection of the Store's exciting merchandise: that one-of-a-kind piece of jewelry, a dramatic print or an intricately carved sculpture. We wish to thank our many members for their continuous support of the museum through their Academy Store purchases.